# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3528
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2016
M.Phil for Women Candidates
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has decided to relax criteria for women and differently abled candidates pursuing M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether women and those with more than 40% disability would now get a year extra to complete their M.Phil papers and two years more to submit Ph.D. thesis;
(d) if so, whether all women candidates would also be provided maternity leave and child care leave for upto 240 days once while they pursue these two degrees; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) to (e): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016 on 11th July, 2016 according to which the women candidates and persons with disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of one year for M.Phil. and two years for Ph.D in the maximum duration of these courses.
The regulations have provisions allowing transfer of research data in case of relocation of an M.Phil/Ph.D woman scholar due to marriage or otherwise; and allowing women candidates maternity leave/child-care leave once in the entire duration of M.Phil./Ph.D for up to 240 days. The regulations are available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4952604_UGC-(M.PHIL.-PH.D-DEGREES)-REGULATIONS,-2016.pdf .
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